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03500.014706.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: Examiner: NYA  
KAZUHITO OHASHI )  
: Group Art Unit: 2614  
Application No.: 09/639,082 )  
: Filed: August 16, 2000 )  
: For: IMAGE INPUT APPARATUS ) April 2, 2003

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APR 04 2003

Technology Center 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
AND STATUS INQUIRY

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

For the concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents, the Examiner is referred to the accompanying English abstracts.

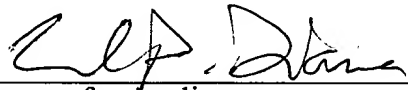
Each of the listed documents was first cited in a Japanese Office Action Report in a counterpart Japanese patent application. A copy of the January 7, 2003, Japanese Office Action Report and an English translation thereof are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Moreover, since this application was filed over one year ago, and Applicant has not received any action thereon, Applicant respectfully requests to be advised as to when to expect an Office Action to issue.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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